

## Message Text

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TAGS PFOR CA FR

SUBJ PARIS-OTTAWA-QUEBEC: MCGILL PROFESSOR SAYS

TRUDEAU NOW SPEAKS FOR ALL CANADIANS

REF OTTAWA 3042

1. THE TORONTO GLOBE & MAIL PUBLISHED, SEPTEMBER 26,  
THE FOLLOWING STORY BY ITS EUROPEAN CORRESPONDENT LEO RYAN,  
SUMMARIZING AN ARTICLE BY MCGILL UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR  
JEAN ETHIER-BLAIS WHICH APPEARED IN THIS WEEK'S LES NOUVELLES  
LIBBERAIRES:

BEGIN TEXT: PARIS - FOLLOWING THE DECLINE OF GAULLISM AND  
NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN QUEBEC-OTTAWA RELATIONS, PRIME MINISTER  
PIERRE TRUDEAU IS COMING AS "THE BIG VICTOR" ON HIS OFFICIAL  
VISIT TO PARIS NEXT MONTH, SAYS WELL-KNOWN FRENCH CANADIAN  
AUTHOR AND UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR JEAN ETHIER-BLAIS IN AN  
OUTSPOKEN COMMENTARY IN A LEADING PARIS LITERARY PUBLICATION.

WRITING IN THIS WEEK'S EDITION OF LES NOUVELLES  
LITTERAIRES, THE PROFESSOR OF FRENCH LITERATURE AT  
MCGILL UNIVERSITY IN MONTREAL DID NOT MINCE HIS WORDS  
WHEN REFERRING TO RECENT SHIFTS IN POLITICAL TRENDS  
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IN CANADA, TO THE DETERIORATION OF THE FRENCH LANGUAGE

IN QUEBEC, OR TO THE ATTITUDE OF QUEBEC YOUTH.

IN PROF. ETHIER-BLAIS'S OPINION, MR TRUDEAU HAS  
"EVERYTHING TO PLEASE FRENCH LEADERS: ABSOLUTE POWER,  
A LOVE FOR FRANCE, THE DIRECTION OF A RICH COUNTRY, A  
CERTAIN DESIRE FOR APPEASMENT."

PROF. ETHIER-BLAIS WENT ON TO SAY THAT "ONE SHOULD  
NOT DELUDE ONESELF. PIERRE TRUDEAU IS THE LEADER OF A  
PARTY WHICH HOLDS THE LEVERS OF POWER IN QUEBEC AS IN  
OTTAWA." ANY CONTINUED STRUGGLES BETWEEN FEDERAL AND  
PROVINCIAL POLITICS WERE "ONLY FOR THE GALLERY."

"THE INTERESTS ARE THE SAME, AS ARE THE VOTERS."  
QUEBECKERS VOTING FOR ROBERT BOURASSA IN QUEBEC AND MR  
TRUDEAU IN OTTAWA IN FACT ACCEPTED THE SHARING OF THEIR  
CULTURAL WORLD. "THERE WAS UNDER (QUEBEC PREMIER)  
DANIEL JOHNSON AND (FRENCH PRESIDENT) CHARLES DE GAULLE  
THE EMBRYO OF A FRENCH STATE IN NORTH AMERICA. FOR THE  
MOMENT, IT'S FINISHED."

IN A KEY PHRASE, PROF. ETHIER-BLAIS SAID THAT "THE  
PRIME MINISTER OF QUEBEC HAS RE-BECOME A LEUD." THE  
RANDOM HOUSE DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEFINES  
A LEUD AS A FEUDAL VASSAL).

"THIS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT CAN ONLY HAVE ENORMOUS  
CONSEQUENCES ON FRENCH CULTURAL POLICY. FRANCE HAS TWO  
INTERLOCUTORS IN CANADA, EACH ONE AS VALID AS THE OTHER.  
ONE CAN REGRET IT. THIS REGRET CAN CHANGE NOTHING IN  
THE AFFAIR."

PROF. ETHIER-BLAIS FEELS THAT QUEBEC WILL CONTINUE  
TO RECEIVE THE BULK OF FRANCE'S CULTURAL AID. BUT  
QUEBEC'S POLICY "MUST HENCEFORTH COINCIDE WITH THE  
GENERAL INTERESTS OF THE CANADIAN MAJORITY. THE PRIVILEGED  
PARTNER IS ALREADY NO LONGER THE SAME." END TEXT.  
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## Message Attributes

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